

Amendment to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 26-27 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Otherwise, the suspension(3b) leaving the reaction tube(2) may be mixed with a pH control agent(12) in a separate mixer(13), as illustrated in Fig.1. The mixer(13) may be a stirred-type vessel equipped with an agitation means or a vessel without ~~with~~ an agitation means wherein a suspension(3b) and a pH control agent(12) are mixed with each other in a just flowing state. Alternatively, as illustrated in Fig.4, they may be mixed before or after the outlet of the reaction tube of the tubular reactor or in the outlet tube of the suspension(3b) without ~~with~~ an agitation means. In addition to this method, it is also possible to control the pH value of a hydrous zirconia sol by continuously or intermittently adding a pH control agent(12) to the reservoir storing the suspension(3b) leaving the tubular reactor. The ammonia concentration of an ammonia aqueous solution is not specifically limited, but about 0.01 ~ 10N of ammonia water is preferable.